

# Come to Nashville City Cemetery

Learn more about one of the top 3 19th Century Diseases and similarities with COVID





# Nashville City

Cemetery History Series

## History facts

### Cholera

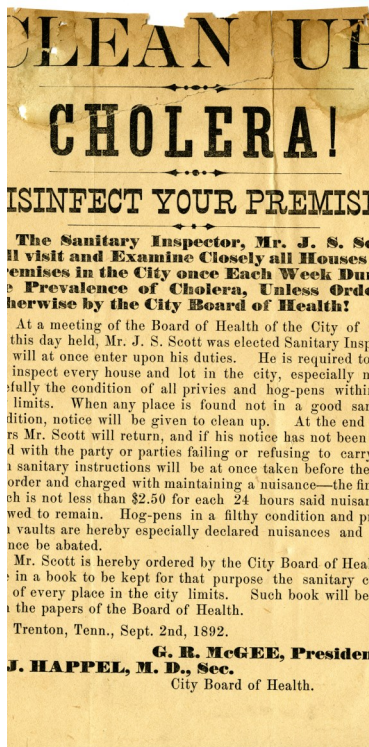
During the nineteenth century, "King Cholera" was deadly. Tennessee suffered crippling cholera epidemics during the nineteenth century, most notably in 1849, 1866, and 1873.

The sickness is transmitted through unsanitary water contaminated with cholera bacteria, usually from human waste. A disease of the intestines, cholera produces symptoms that include profuse watery diarrhea,



New York Times of July 11, 1873, reported there was "Filth enough in Nashville and Memphis to give the scourge a strong foothold."

## Disinfectant notices



Health, looking to the comfort and health of the community, and recognizing the importance of prompt advice of these gentlemen, who have the well at heart, you are **Hereby Requested** to use continuously one of the disinfectants as follows:

1st. 2 Lbs. Chloride Lime dissolved in 8 Gallons of Water.  
2d. One ounce each Corrosive Sublimated Sulphur and Manganate of Potash in 4 Gallons of Water.

OR EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING:

2 Lbs. Chloride Lime, 2 Lbs. Copperas, 2 Lbs. Carbolic Acid, 1 Peck of Fresh Lime.

The ordinances of the City make it a crime for any person to allow their premises to become a nuisance. You are urged to make of your premises at least once a week the disinfectants named above.

TO EVERY CITIZEN OF NASHVILLE, TENN.

The cholera, which has been raging for some weeks, raging to an alarming extent throughout Europe, has at last crossed the Atlantic and is now on the coast of America. It is all probability, within the next 30 days, will penetrate far into the interior of our country, and therefore becomes our duty to at once prevent this grim destroyer of human life from entering our town.

You are hereby given official notice to clean out and thoroughly disinfect all privy premises, using freshly boiling water together with lime, sulphur, carbolic acid or 1 part chloride of lime to 10 parts of water. Destroy all foul odors, and all piles of garbage or decaying vegetable matter, and keep thoroughly clean the street in front of your residence or place of business, keeping it free from any and every thing that causes foul odors which aid in the development and spread of infectious or contagious diseases.

The proper sanitary officer will visit you five days from the date of this notice and have in any way failed to comply with the terms of the same he will immediately have cleaning up as is necessary done and the cost will be charged to you, and collected.



vomiting, excessive thirst, high fever and unbearable pain in the limbs. It is still a major problem in undeveloped countries.

Sulphur fumigation was used to disinfect and to prevent the spread of infectious diseases such as cholera, yellow fever, and tuberculosis.

In an 1892 resolution, the Knoxville Board of Public Works provides two formulas for cholera disinfectants. This handbill encourages citizens to examine their properties weekly and apply a solution as needed. A \$25.00 fine is ordered for offenders who violate city sanitary laws.

## CHOLERA BURIALS NASHVILLE CITY CEMETERY

